



# NEWS

**MONTGOMERY COUNTY OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS**  
**COURT HOUSE, NORRISTOWN, PA., BOX 311, 19404-0311**

**Frank X. Custer, Communications Director**

**Jessica Willingham, Communications Assistant**

**PHONE (610) 278-3061 FAX (610) 278-5943**

**COMMISSIONERS: JOSH SHAPIRO, *Chair***

**VALERIE A. ARKOOSH, MD, MPH, *Vice Chair***

**BRUCE L. CASTOR, JR., *Commissioner***



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: March 26, 2015**

**Census Bureau: Montco Still Among Fastest Growing Counties in PA;  
It is Also Among the Healthiest, According to RWJ Foundation**

**Norristown, PA (March 26, 2015)** – Montgomery County learned this week that it is among the fastest growing and healthiest counties in Pennsylvania, according to the U.S. Census Bureau and the Robert Wood Johnson (RWJ) Foundation.

The latest census figures show that between 2010 and 2014, Montgomery County had the second fastest numerical gain in population in the state and was tied for eighth place in percentage increase. The RWJ Foundation ranked Montgomery County the sixth overall healthiest county in Pennsylvania.

Between April 1, 2010 and July 1, 2014, Montgomery County's population increased by 16,984, second only to Philadelphia in numerical growth. Percentage-wise, the population grew by 2.1 percent. The only counties that had a higher percentage of growth were Cumberland, Centre, Chester, Lancaster, Lehigh, Philadelphia, and Franklin.

"These new numbers indicate that Montgomery County remains a vibrant, growing county," said Josh Shapiro, chair of the Montgomery County Commissioners. Shapiro pointed to an expanding number of jobs, excellent public transportation, and a growing housing market as the main drivers of Montgomery County's growth. The largest net migration in the state occurred in Allegheny and Montgomery Counties.

According to a brief released by the Pennsylvania State Data Center, Philadelphia, Chester, Lancaster, and Montgomery County together accounted for 93.4 percent of Pennsylvania's overall population increase of 84,325 during the four-year period.

According to the RWJ Foundation health report, Montgomery County ranked sixth in “overall health outcomes” in the state. The only county in the region scoring higher than Montgomery was Chester County. Montgomery County ranked first in social and economic factors and fourth in access to clinical care.

The Robert Wood Johnson health rankings can be found here:

<http://www.countyhealthrankings.org/>, while the Pennsylvania State Data Center research brief on the census figures can be found here:

[http://pasdc.hbg.psu.edu/sdc/pasdc\\_files/researchbriefs/2014\\_County\\_Estimates\\_RB.pdf](http://pasdc.hbg.psu.edu/sdc/pasdc_files/researchbriefs/2014_County_Estimates_RB.pdf)